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Signature:

Date: May 29, 2009 Name: Tadashi Horie, Reg. No. 40,437

Attorney Docket No. 9683/261

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Satoru Adachi et al.	
Serial No. 10/680,205)
Filing Date: October 8, 2003) Examiner: Patel, Jayesh A.
For: IMAGE ENCODING METHOD, IMAGE DECODING METHOD, IMAGE ENCODING APPARATUS, IMAGE DECODING APPARATUS, IMAGE ENCODING PROGRAM, AND IMAGE DECODING PROGRAM) Group Art Unit No. 2624)) Confirmation No. 7459)))))
)

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 19, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.